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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/786,153	02/26/2004	Tadashi Ichida	SN-US045010	9146
22919 7590 08/09/2007 GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP 1233 20TH STREET, NW, SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036-2680			EXAMINER CHARLES, MARCUS	
			ART UNIT 3682	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/09/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/786,153		ICHIDA ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Marcus Charles		3682	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 13-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 11, 12 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to the submission filed 05-24-2007, which has been entered.

Claims 1-20 are currently pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-15 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Isobe (4,199,997) in view of DE (4340471) to Butz. In claims 1-2 and 17, Nanko discloses a bicycle front derailleur member comprising a bicycle frame ((1a) mounting portion (14/27) including a curved front surface with a threaded hole (see in figs. 3-4) for coupling to the bicycle, a front derailleur mounting portion (11) configured and arranged couple to the linkage of the derailleur, the front derailleur mounting portion including at least a first pivot (41). Isobe fails to disclose a motor mounting member comprising a motor mounting unit portion for mounting a motor mounting unit. DE (4340471) discloses a mounting unit (106) coupled to a linkage member (9) of a derailleur and is arranged to be coupled to a motor unit, wherein the motor mounting unit is in one piece with a bicycle frame mounting unit (100) and the front derailleur mounting portion. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the bicycle frame mounting member of Isobe to include the limitations of DE (4340471) in order to provide the gear changing

mechanism means for automatically change the gear ratios and to reduce the number of mounting parts thus increasing accuracy and reducing inadvertent loosening of the mounting parts.

In claim 3, Isobe does not disclose the motor unit-mounting portion includes an output shaft cutout portion having an axis substantially parallel to the pivot axis of the derailleur-mounting portion. DE (4340471) discloses a derailleur-mounting portion has an output shaft cutout (see fig.4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the derailleur-mounting portion of Isobe to include a cutout the mounting unit of DE (4340471) in order to allow for the accommodation of a motor to automatically manipulate the derailleur.

In claim 4, note DE (4340471) the longitudinal axis of the threaded is substantially parallel to the center of the output shaft axis.

In claims 5 and 6, note DE (4340471) discloses the motor unit mounting hole portion is surrounded by the material of the motor unit-mounting portion.

In claims 7 and 8, note the second axis (44) parallel with the first axis (42).

In claim 9, Isobe in view of DE (4340471) to Butz disclose the claimed invention.

In claim 10, note the threaded holes in fig. 3 of Isobe.

In claim 13, Isobe discloses the claimed invention (see figs. 3-4).

In claims 14 and 15, Isobe discloses the claimed invention. See links (15) and (16).


In claims 18-19, Isobe in view of DE (4340471) to Butz disclose the claimed invention above.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 11-12 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marcus Charles whose telephone number is (571) 272-7101. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ridley Richard can be reached on (571) 272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


Marcus Charles
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3682
August 03, 2007